



REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
CHARLIE COMPANY, 1ST BATTALION, 29th INFANTRY REGIMENT
316TH CAVALRY BRIGADE
10431 WARE AVE, BUILDING 4966
FORT BENNING GEORGIA 31905-4420

ATZK-SBD-C

4 March 2016

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Sixteenth Annual U.S. Army International Sniper Competition

1. **GENERAL:** The United States Army Sniper Course (USASC) will host the 2016 U.S. Army International Sniper Competition (ISC) at Fort Benning, GA (FBGA). The event will take place 16-22 October 2016 and will consist of numerous day and night courses of fire to physically and mentally challenge sniper teams from all branches of service as well as select international teams and law enforcement agencies.
2. **PURPOSE:** The ISC is a combat focused competition that seeks to test a sniper team's ability to communicate and make decisions under stress and fatigue, challenge comfort zones of precision marksmanship capability and training methodology, and share information and lessons learned regarding sniper operations, tactics, techniques, and equipment. Above all, the chief aim of this year's competition is to foster healthy competition and camaraderie within the sniper community.
3. **PARTICIPATION:** Each team must consist of two snipers, who are both required to provide the USASC with documented proof that they graduated from an accredited sniper training course. Examples include an Enlisted Record Brief (ERB) showing an ASI B4 or a graduation certificate. Law enforcement personnel must show a similar certificate or a prior military training certificate. The USASC has the final decision on the validity of presented documentation. English is the official language of the competition. The USASC is not responsible for providing translators for visiting international teams. Coaches are authorized in a limited capacity as directed by USASC and will be briefed prior to competition events. In general, coaches will not have any form of contact with their team(s) once the competitors have departed the pre-holding area until they have completed the event and are in the post-holding area.
4. **REGISTRATION:** Teams must pre-register for the competition by 16 September 2016 (see Enclosure 2). After this date, the USASC will fill open slots on a first come, first served basis with respect to the invitation list (see Enclosure 1). To finalize registration, teams must check in at USASC Headquarters, Building 4883, 10440 Backstrom Road, Fort Benning, GA 31905. The registration window is open from 0900-1500 hours on 16 October 2016. There are no registration or administrative fees for participating.

ATZK-SBD-C

SUBJECT: Sixteenth Annual U.S. Army International Sniper Competition

5. WEAPONS: Each team member must bring a sniper rifle, a carbine, and a pistol (6 weapons total per team). The primary sniper may use a bolt or gas gun, but the primary spotter must use a gas gun. All sniper rifles must be chambered for 7.62mm NATO (.308 cal), all carbines must be chambered for 5.56mm NATO (.223 cal), and all pistols must be a minimum of 9mm. There will not be separate classes or differences in power factor for any event. Teams are authorized to bring additional weapons or upper receiver groups if needed, and the competition officials will brief exactly what is needed for each event. Keep in mind that if a team arrives with two bolt guns but no gas gun chambered in 7.62mm NATO, the spotter will be required to use a carbine for specific events to meet the gas gun requirement. The USASC will not issue any weapons to teams; the only exception is for international teams that would otherwise not be able to compete. The USASC maintains a secure arms room with alarm system for the storage of weapons. Each team will be assigned a sensitive item storage locker and is required to provide a lock. Teams are also required to provide their own cleaning supplies and spare parts.

6. AMMUNITION: All teams are required to bring their own ammunition for the ISC as listed below. The only allowable projectiles are ball (to include M855, but not M855A1), open tip match (OTM), or Boat Tail Hollow Point (BTHP). No armor piercing, tracer, or incendiary rounds are permitted. No type of hollow point pistol ammo is permitted. The USASC ammunition supply point is the storage location for competitor ammunition, and we recommend that teams place their ammunition in a locked ammo can that is clearly marked with the team's information. The USASC also recommends that international and OCONUS teams coordinate to ship their ammunition directly to the USASC HQ. The only approved shipping methods are FEDEX, UPS, or DHL. Contact the USASC prior to shipping any ammunition.

- a. 250 rounds per sniper rifle (500 per team) - 7.62mm NATO
- b. 180 rounds per carbine (360 per team) - 5.56mm NATO
- c. 125 rounds per pistol (250 per team) – minimum caliber is 9mm NATO

7. EQUIPMENT: Teams must provide their own organic sniper team equipment in order to conduct operations in day or night conditions. The USASC will not issue any equipment to teams; the only exception is for international teams that would otherwise not be able to compete. Please see the required and recommended packing list (Enclosure 3) for detailed information. The USASC will provide each team a wall locker to store all equipment, and teams are required to provide a lock.

8. UNIFORM: The authorized uniform for competitors is the ACU, OCP, or equivalent field uniform for other military branches, international teams, and law enforcement agencies. Teams must provide one Ghillie suit per person in order to conduct a woodland stalk. Teams must also bring a serviceable and complete duty uniform or equivalent for the awards ceremony and other official events.

ATZK-SBD-C

SUBJECT: Sixteenth Annual U.S. Army International Sniper Competition

9. LODGING: Fort Benning lodging is available on post at Abrams Hall or Olson Hall. Reservations can be made by contacting the main office at (706) 689-0067 ext. 2800 or 2538 or by completing an online reservation request at <http://www.benningmwr.com/forms/lodging-index.php>. The USASC also has access to limited barracks space for competitors on a first come, first served basis, but space is not guaranteed. If you require a barracks room, contact the USASC in advance to make a reservation.

10. TRAVEL: Teams are responsible for making their own travel arrangements to Fort Benning. The USASC recommends that competitors fly into the Atlanta Hartsfield International Airport. Fort Benning is located approximately 100 miles South of the airport. Competitors may rent a car in the baggage claim area. If competitors choose not to rent a car, they can utilize GROOME Transportation, which provides round trip transportation from the Atlanta Airport to Fort Benning. GROOME Transportation is located in the ground transportation area of the airport and can be reached via phone at 1-800-584-6735. Directions to the USASC are located in Enclosure 4.

11. TRANSPORTATION: Teams must provide their own transportation to and from Fort Benning as well as before and after competition events. The USASC will provide all teams with shuttles to and from the USASC HQ and ranges for all events. Coaches must provide their own transportation to and from ranges and training areas if they wish to follow along with their team(s).

12. VISITORS: Professional associates of the competitors and members of a team's chain-of-command are welcome to attend the competition. All visitors must sign in at the 1-29 Infantry Regiment Headquarters prior to attending an event. Visitors are not allowed to assist competitors in any way. The USASC requests that units notify MCoE immediately if a General Officer from their installation plans to attend any portion of the competition.

13. MEDIA: Various members of the post, local, and national media are expected during the competition. Media personnel must be vetted through the MCoE Public Affairs Office (PAO) prior to the event. All competitors must complete a media release form during registration and notify the USASC if they elect not to be interviewed, filmed, or photographed.

14. AWARDS AND BANQUET: There will be an official opening ceremony on 17 October and final awards ceremony on 21 October hosted by the Maneuver Center of Excellence (MCoE). The Army Sniper Association (ASA) will host an off post banquet and social for the competitors on the evening of 21 October. The dress code for this event is business casual/smooths. Banquet attendance is free and highly encouraged, but not mandatory. The USASC recommends that competitors make departure travel arrangements for after 1200 hours on Saturday, 22 October 2016.

15. All information in this memorandum is subject to change. All changes will be reflected on the MCoE website (<http://www.benning.army.mil/snipercompetition>) as

ATZK-SBD-C

SUBJECT: Sixteenth Annual U.S. Army International Sniper Competition

needed. The USASC points of contact for the 2016 International Sniper Competition are listed below.

- a. SFC Matthew Hammond – USASC Senior Instructor
Email: matthew.r.hammond.mil@mail.mil
Office: 706-544-6182

- b. SFC Anthony Kizziah – USASC Operations NCO
Email: anthony.w.kizziah.mil@mail.mil
Office: 706-544-6505
U.S. Army Sniper Course
10440 Backstrom Road
Building 4883, Harmony Church
Fort Benning, GA 31905

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NICHOLAS P. PRIVETTE
CPT, IN
Commanding

5 encls

- 1. Invitation List
- 2. Registration Form
- 3. Packing List
- 4. Driving Directions
- 5. General Information and Tentative Schedule

ATZK-SBD-C

SUBJECT: Sixteenth Annual U.S. Army International Sniper Competition

Enclosure 1: Invitation List

The following is the proposed Invitation List for the 2016 International Sniper Competition. This year's field will have an optimal number of 36 teams and a maximum of 40 teams, depending on International Military participation. Teams will consist of two personnel and can also include a coach to act in a logistical and administrative capacity.

- (9) International Militaries (priority for teams with an LNO at MCoE)
- (14) FORSCOM Divisions and Separate Brigades
- (5) USASOC (to include the SFSC, SF Groups, and 75th Ranger Regiment)
- (4) Joint Forces (USMC, Navy, Air Force, Coast Guard)
- (3) Army National Guard and Army Reserves
- (1) TRADOC
- (4) Law Enforcement and Federal Agencies

ATZK-SBD-C

SUBJECT: Sixteenth Annual U.S. Army International Sniper Competition

Enclosure 2: Registration Form

Due NLT Friday, 16 September 2016

(This should be E-mailed to one of the provided POCs or mailed to USASC, C/1-29 IN, ATTN: U.S. Army Sniper Course Building 4883, Fort Benning, GA 31905)

SHOOTER INFORMATION

Complete Unit: _____ (the unit you are representing) DATE: _____

Shooter Name & Rank _____

Sniper Training School: USMC USA USN SOTIC OTHER (circle)

NOTE: Attach a copy of diploma (MANDATORY)

Duty Position _____

Years as a Sniper _____

Shooter agrees to media exposure prior to and during the competition: yes or no

Shooter agrees to be contacted by competition contributors prior to the competition: yes or no

T-Shirt size: _____ e-mail address _____ Phone # _____

SPOTTER INFORMATION

Complete Unit: _____ (the unit you are representing)

Spotter Name & Rank _____

Sniper Training School: USMC USA USN SOTIC OTHER (circle)

NOTE: Attach a copy of diploma (MANDATORY)

Duty Position _____

Years as a Sniper _____

Spotter agrees to media exposure prior to and during the competition: yes or no

Spotter agrees to be contacted by competition contributors prior to the competition: yes or no

T-Shirt size _____ e-mail address _____ Phone # _____

Unit Point of Contact (Name and e-mail) / Phone # _____

Estimated arrival Date / Time: _____

Administrative Only:

Date Received: _____ Received By: _____ Team Number: _____

SUBJECT: Sixteenth Annual U.S. Army International Sniper Competition

DATE: _____

NAME: _____

VEHICLE INFORMATION

YEAR: _____ MODEL: _____

MAKE: _____ COLOR: _____

[illegible]

ATZK-SBD-C

SUBJECT: Sixteenth Annual U.S. Army International Sniper Competition

I have read and understand the following excerpt from MCoE Regulation 190-11, Chapter 2, dated 27 AUG 12, and will abide by the provisions of this policy.

SIGNATURE: _____

DATE: _____

MCoE Regulation 190-11, Chapter 2, Weapons Policy

2-1. General.

- a. The introduction or carrying of privately owned weapons, explosives and ammunition on Fort Benning is prohibited unless specifically authorized as outlined in this regulation.
- b. Privately owned firearms will only be brought onto the installation by persons living on the installation or for the purpose of engaging in authorized activities such as hunting, dog training, and use of recreational range or marksmanship events.
- c. Persons may not display, brandish, wave, wield, show, flash, or present a weapon in public, in a threatening manner or as a threat to another person.
- d. Persons may not openly carry a privately owned firearm in public except while participating in an authorized shooting or hunting event at the event site or hunting area.
- e. The carrying of a concealed weapon on the installation is prohibited regardless of whether a state or county permit has been obtained. For the purpose of this regulation, a concealed weapon is any instrument used or designed for the purpose of inflicting grievous bodily harm that is carried on a person in such a way as to be hidden from ordinary view. Folded knives with blades shorter than 3 inches are excluded from this definition.
- f. Military personnel carrying weapons as part of military training or operational exercises may transport and carry weapons consistent with their duties as approved by the appropriate commander.
- g. Carrying of firearms, open or concealed, is authorized for any officer, agent, or employee of a Federal agency, a state, or a political subdivision thereof while in an on-duty status, who is authorized by law to engage in or supervise the prevention, detection, investigation, or prosecution of any violation of law. Personnel who perform law enforcement duties and who are in an off-duty status are not authorized to possess a firearm on the installation unless approved by the installation commander.
- h. The following are considered authorized privately owned weapons for possession on the installation, except as outlined in paragraph h below: Firearms, bows (to include long, recurve, compound, cam, or crossbows), air or CO2 rifles or pistols (BB/pellet guns/paint ball guns), knives (excluding kitchenware), martial arts weapons, and slingshots.
 - (1) The term —firearmll means (a) any weapon (including a starter gun) which will or is designed to or may readily be converted to expel a projectile by the action of an explosive; (b) the frame or receiver of any such weapon; (c) any firearm muffler or firearm silencer; or (d) any destructive device. Such term does not include an antique firearm.
 - (2) The term —destructive devicell means:
 - (a) Any explosive, incendiary, or poison gas
 - (1) Bomb,
 - (2) Grenade,
 - (3) Rocket having a propellant charge of more than four ounces
 - (4) Missile having an explosive or incendiary charge of more than one-quarter ounce,
 - (5) Mine, or
 - (6) Device similar to any of the devices described in the preceding clauses
 - (b) Any type of weapon (other than a shotgun or a shot-gun shell which the Attorney General finds is generally recognized as particularly suitable for sporting purposes) by whatever name known which will, or which may be readily converted to, expel a projectile by the action of an explosive or other propellant, and which has any barrel with a bore of more than one-half inch in diameter; and

ATZK-SBD-C

SUBJECT: Sixteenth Annual U.S. Army International Sniper Competition

(c) Any combination of parts either designed or in-tended for use in converting any device into any destructive device described in subparagraph (a) or (b) and from which a destructive device may be readily assembled.

i. The following are considered privately owned weapons prohibited on the installation: sawed-off shotgun, sawed-off rifle, a firearm with an altered or removed serial number, machine gun not registered with the ATF, rocket launcher, bazooka, recoilless rifle, mortar, hand grenade, or similar type devices intended to injure or kill a person.

(1) 'Sawed-off shotgun' means a shotgun or any weapon made from a shotgun whether by alteration, modification, or other-wise having one or more barrels less than 18 inches in length or if such weapon as modified has an overall length of less than 26 inches.

(2) 'Sawed-off rifle' means a weapon designed or redesigned, made or remade, and intended to be fired from the shoulder; and designed or redesigned, made or remade, to use the energy of the explosive in a fixed metallic cartridge to fire only a single projectile through a rifle bore for each single pull of the trigger; and which has a barrel or barrels of less than 16 inches in length or has an overall length of less than 26 inches.

j. Lawful possession is defined as the possession of a registered firearm or other authorized weapon not classified as illegal by state or federal law, while in quarters, hunting or sports shooting; during transportation related to relocation or initial introduction onto the installation or for some type of recognized function involving that particular weapon.

k. With the exception of weapons utilized as marksmanship weapons, it is prohibited to carry, move, or store U.S. Government AA&E in privately-owned vehicles either on or off the installation.

l. Personnel authorized access to the installation may temporarily secure, or transport privately owned firearms or other weapons to functions or activities involving those weapons (such as hunting, sports shooting, or other legitimate reasons) subject to the provisions of this regulation.

m. The theft or loss of any privately owned firearm will be immediately reported to the Directorate of Emergency Services.

2-4. Transporting of Weapons.

Personnel may transport authorized weapons on or off post for hunting, sports shooting, or other legitimate reasons, to include recognized functions or activities involving a firearm.

a. When transporting firearms, personnel will ensure:

(1) The firearm(s) is unloaded and separated from the am-munition.

(2) The firearm(s) has no loaded magazine/clip inserted into the firearm.

(3) Muzzle loading firearms are properly prepared for trans-port. Muzzle loading firearms may contain a powder charge and projectile in the chamber but cannot have a percussion cap, primer, flint, powder or other firing device on the nipple or flash pan. Electronic ignition muzzle loading firearms must have the battery removed and separated from the firearm.

(4) All firearms will be transported cased, secured and not in plain view from outside the vehicle. If the vehicle has a trunk the firearm must be transported in the trunk. Regardless of whether the vehicle has a trunk or not, the firearm must be placed in a hard or soft case with the ammunition separated from the firearm. Firearms in a "gun sock" or holster will not be considered cased. The actual firearm cannot be in —plain view. Therefore, a firearm enclosed in a standard hard or soft case is NOT in "plain view." At no time should a firearm, cased or un-cased, be transported in window gun racks. Under no circumstances may an uncased gun be transported under or behind a seat or in a glove compartment, console, seat pouch or similar location.

(5) Hunters travelling within a hunting area they are signed into do not have to re-case their firearm before transport. However, the firearm must be unloaded, the magazine removed from the fire-arm, and ammunition separated from the firearm.

(6) Personally owned firearms removed from the installation are done so in accordance with applicable Federal, state, and local laws pertaining to ownership, possession, and registration.

b. Crossbows cannot be cocked or have a bolt in the firing position.

2-5. Firing or Discharging of Weapons.

Personnel may not:

ATZK-SBD-C

SUBJECT: Sixteenth Annual U.S. Army International Sniper Competition

- a. Discharge a firearm or projectile weapon in the cantonment area and inside or adjacent to housing areas unless otherwise authorized by special permit in approved areas. All personnel must have appropriate documentation authorizing such activities. Military personnel may discharge weapons using blank ammunition in the cantonment area while practicing for funeral details or other special events.
- b. Conduct target practice except on an authorized range. Contact Outdoor Recreation (706-545-7978) for information about target practice and firearms zeroing opportunities.
- c. Discharge a firearm after legal hunting hours unless otherwise authorized by special permit or to remove a round from a muzzle loading firearm at the end of a hunt. Hunters who discharge a muzzle loading firearm after legal hours to remove a round must do so in the training area they were checked in to hunt that evening.
- d. Discharge a firearm or projectile weapon from a vehicle or across a maintained road.
- e. Discharge a firearm or projectile weapon within 200 feet of maintained roads, buildings, construction projects, or other man-made infrastructure.
- f. Discharge a firearm or projectile weapon within 200 yards in the direction of a maintained road, buildings, construction projects, or other man-made infrastructure. A maintained road is a road with a base consisting of pavement, concrete, gravel, or improved dirt that receives maintenance and is wide enough to allow at least two-way vehicular traffic.
- g. Paintball guns may only be fired on approved MWR sites or under command directed activities (e.g. training events, law enforcement missions, etc.).

2-6. Ammunition and Explosives.

- a. The unusual amount and diversified character of firing conducted on Fort Benning requires that special and intelligent care be exercised to avoid accidents. All concerned with handling, care and use of ammunition and explosives, or with the conduct or direction of any firing, or the care and police of buildings and areas which are used for storing explosives will familiarize themselves with current safety regulations and field and technical manuals pertaining to the munitions being handled.
- b. The firing of ammunition of any type over buildings or other structures, public highways, or public railroads, is prohibited. Extreme care will be exercised that areas of impact are at a safe distance from buildings or other structures, roads and railroads, and that such areas are fully within the limits of the reservation.
- c. The keeping of live ammunition, projectiles or explosives as souvenirs by any person is prohibited.
- d. Discarding or dumping live ammunition, projectiles, or explosives in any area of Fort Benning is prohibited.
- e. The removal of live or expended ammunition and ammunition residue from the installation is prohibited.

ATZK-SBD-C

SUBJECT: Sixteenth Annual U.S. Army International Sniper Competition

Enclosure 3: Packing List

1. Equipment: Each team will be required to arrive on time on day 1 fully equipped.

a. The following is a list of mandatory equipment:

- 1) Sniper Rifle chambered in 7.62mm NATO (per team member)
- 2) Carbine chambered in 5.56mm NATO (per team member)
- 3) Pistol chambered in 9mm minimum (per team member)
- 4) Sniper rifle drag bags
- 5) Spotting Scope
- 6) Ghillie suit/ camouflage suit
- 7) Field Uniform (Top, Bottom, Cap, Shirt, Boots, Belt)
- 8) Pen/Pencil and Note Pad
- 9) Flashlight with batteries
- 10) Rucksack or Assault Pack (per team member)
- 11) Canteens/Camelback
- 12) LBE, LBV, RACK, or other tactical load carrying system
- 13) Individual Night Vision Devices
- 14) Ballistic Helmet
- 15) IBA/ Plate Carrier/ Body Armor with front and back plates (side plates optional)
- 16) Eye and Ear Protection
- 17) Inclement Weather Gear

b. The following is a list of recommended equipment:

- 1) Bipods or rucksack rest for shooting support
- 2) Rear bag or sand socks (sandbags will not be used)
- 3) Tripod
- 4) Compass/GPS
- 5) Protractor
- 6) Team Communication Equipment (ICOM, MBITR, etc.)
- 7) Thermal Devices
- 8) Laser Range Finder
- 9) Knee and Elbow Pads
- 10) Ballistic Computer and Weather Station

NOTE:

If an event requires any of the above mentioned pieces of mandatory equipment and a competitor fails to bring it, that team will receive a zero for that event.

ATZK-SBD-C

SUBJECT: Sixteenth Annual U.S. Army International Sniper Competition

Enclosure 4: Driving Directions

Coming from 280 West Bound:

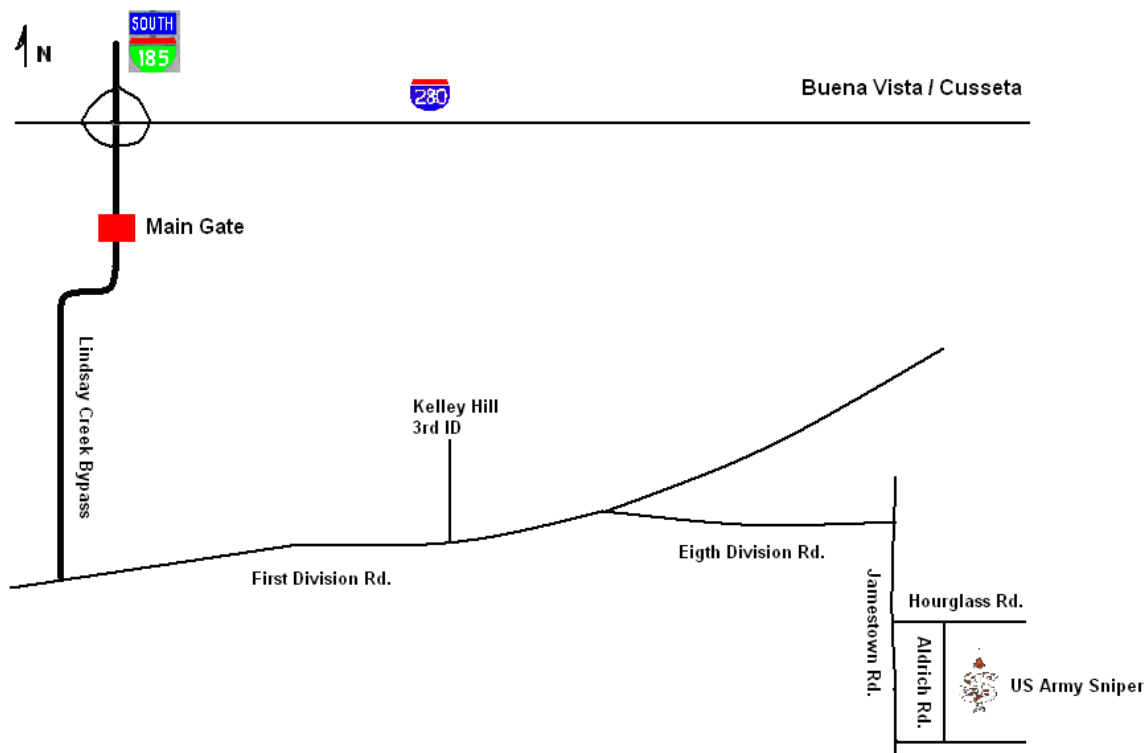
- 1.) From Cusseta stay on US-280W / US-27North approximately **9 miles**
- 2.) Take the Ft. Benning exit for the Infantry Museum **1.5 miles**

Coming from 280 East Bound:

- 1.) From Phenix City / Columbus stay on US-280W / Victory Drive approx. **5 miles**
- 2.) Take the Ft. Benning exit for the Infantry Museum **1.5 miles**

Coming from 85 North:

- 1.) Continue on 85S headed towards Auburn/Montgomery
 - 2.) Merge onto I-185 S/ GA-411 S via EXIT 21 toward Columbus **51 miles**
 - 3.) You will arrive at the Ft. Benning Main gate
 - 4.) After clearing the main gate stay on Lindsay Creek Bypass until you intersect w/ First Division Rd. **3 miles**
 - 5.) Take a left hand turn and stay on 1st Division Rd. for **5 miles**
 - 6.) Veer right onto Eighth Division Rd. **2 miles**
 - 7.) Turn right onto Jamestown Rd. **2.5 miles**
 - 8.) Turn left onto hourglass Rd. **.2 miles**
 - 9.) Turn right onto Aldrich Rd. **.2 miles**
- * U.S. Army Sniper Course will be on the left hand side of the road.



ATZK-SBD-C

SUBJECT: Sixteenth Annual U.S. Army International Sniper Competition

Enclosure 5: General Information and Tentative Schedule

General Information: The Sixteenth Annual U.S. Army International Sniper Competition is scheduled for 16-22 October 2016 at Fort Benning, GA. Each unit invited is authorized to send one team consisting of one shooter and one spotter. Coaches are authorized but not required.

Events: Every sniper team will participate in approximately twenty combat related events. The following are examples of some sniper doctrinal skills that will be tested:

- A. Field firing. Each team will be tested on their ability to successfully engage targets of known and unknown distances with a sniper rifle and carbine during day and night as well as engagements with a pistol. Each team will also be tested on their ability to compensate for cold bore/clean bore shots with the sniper rifle (day/night). This will take place during more than one event.
- B. Advanced marksmanship. Each team will engage moving targets at varying speeds and distances (day/night) with individual weapons. Each team will also be required to engage targets using alternate firing positions under physical fatigue and mental stress. This will take place during more than one event.
- C. Field Craft. Each team will be challenged on their abilities to select a route, move into a firing position, deliver a shot, and exfiltrate undetected while under continuous observation. Each team will be challenged on their abilities to construct a field sketch, detect concealed targets, and estimate range to targets and items without the aid of a laser range finder.
- D. Dialogue Shooting. Each team will be challenged in their abilities to work through difficult scenarios that will require them to communicate quickly and concisely with one another. Communication skills will be the performance objective.
- E. Pistol Shooting; Each team will be required to shoot from non-traditional positions in and around stationary and moving vehicles.
- F. Physical Fitness: Each team will be challenged physically throughout the competition. Competitors are urged to attend the competition in the best physical condition possible. Running, obstacle courses, and over-land movements are just a few of the challenges competitors will face.
- G. Equipment; Each team will be expected to display expertise with every weapon and piece of equipment that they employ for day and night events.

ATZK-SBD-C

SUBJECT: Sixteenth Annual U.S. Army International Sniper Competition

Tentative Schedule:

Sun 16 October	0900-1500 1200-1600 1700-1900	Registration Window Zero/Confirm Range Welcome and Ice Breaker
Mon 17 October	0530 0700-0730 0800-2359	Team Arrival Opening Ceremony Competition Events
Tue 18 October	0600 0800-2000	Team Arrival Competition Events
Wed 19 October	0600 0800-2359	Team Arrival Competition Events
Thu 20 October	0600 0800-2000	Team Arrival Competition Events
Fri 21 October	0800 0900-1300 1330-1500 1530-1600 1800-2200	Team Arrival Vendor Shoot & Display Team AAR & Lessons Learned Awards Ceremony Off Post Social Hour, Dinner, Banquet
Sat 22 October	NLT 1200	Competitors pick up equipment & ammo